

ARENA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

5:30 PM Everett Arena

Present: Chairman Nick Walner (NW), Mike Groferor (MG), Tom Brown (TB), Kim Arndt (KA), Dave Palisi (DP), Gerry Blanchette (GB), Gary Young (GY), Arena & Properties Manager Jeff Bardwell (JB), Public Properties Superintendent Joe Andrews (JA), Councilor Jim Rowe (JR), Excused Councilor Bill Stetson (BS).

Guest: Wes Riley (WR), CYHA

Meeting called to order 5:30 PM

Advisory Terms

Discussion took place regarding advisory terms. KA stated that she had talked to the City Clerk and questioned what the status was of filling her position. JB stated he would check with the City Clerk and see what the status of her position and that of TB. Both agreed to stay on until their positions were filled. JB reported on the request by Concord Youth Hockey to have the youth hockey position on the advisory committee be that of the current president. The position needs to be a person not a position and the City Clerk was checking on whether the position needed to be a resident of Concord. JB will confirm with City Clerk and report to WR.

Energy Project

JB explained the status of the energy project at the arena. Lighting and low-E-ceiling were completed in September of 2005 and saved as an average of 15% in Kilowatt usage over the course of the winter season. JB distributed a graph showing electric use at the arena from July 2003 through June 2006. TB questioned what the dollar amount in savings was in electricity. JA explained it was important to relate savings to units, kilowatt-hours, versus dollars since the electric rate changes. MG questioned how the savings were achieved during the 2003-04 season when the energy improvements were undertaken in the fall of 2005. JB explained that in October of the 2004-05 season a slab sensor was installed for the refrigeration plant, which allowed the brine pump to cycle off and on. Prior to this the refrigeration plant ran off of brine return temperature, which meant the brine pump had to run continuously. Also staff management of shutting off lights, etc contributed to the savings. JB explained the EMS controls are the last item to be completed for the arena portion of the energy project and are scheduled to be complete this June. TB questioned with the rising energy rates if anything was being done to procure a better rate. JA explained the City has formed an energy group that includes Saint Paul's School, Concord School Department, Merrimack Valley School Department and the town of Bow. The City has hired a consultant to facilitate energy buying.

Fee Schedule

With the 33% increase in electric announced by Unitil, JB explained the need to revisit rates and make adjustments to defray this cost. Discussion took place of the non-ice

rates. KA suggested going to a for profit/non profit rate for building rental and parking lot rentals. JA explained we do have a model for that with the Audi. TB made a motion to go to a for profit/non profit tier for building and parking lot rentals including a daily lot rate, MG 2nd, motion passed unanimously. JA & JB will work on setting up the for profit/non profit rate and will report back at the next advisory meeting. Car parking and bus parking rates were discussed. TB made a motion to raise the car-parking rate to two dollars, 2nd by NW, motion passed unanimously.

Discussion took place regarding the winter ice rates. MG made a motion to leave the public skating rate alone and not raise it as staff advised, 2nd by DP. Discussion took place, motion passed unanimously. WR from Concord Youth Hockey explained that the additional ice rental rate increase will put CYHA approximately 9,000 in the negative and was their any relief from this increase. GB suggested that CYHA as a non-profit go to council as other non-profits do and ask for a donation toward their program. TB stated the charge of the advisory committee is to insure the arena covers its costs and that GB suggestion was probably the best route to take. WR also was concerned of future increases like the present one. JB explained that in the past this has not been the case and that this year was unique because of the increase in the utility rate.

JA thanked the advisory committee for their service and that he was retiring in June and that this was probably his last meeting. Advisory members thanked JA for his service to the City and to the arena.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Jeffrey R. Bardwell
Arena & Properties Manager